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# **CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER**

# **24-HOUR REPORT**

6 JANUARY 2022

### (U) CALIFORNIA

# (U) San Bernardino - Southern California Raids Target Illegal Marijuana Grows

(U) A week of raids by San Bernardino County deputies eliminated 93 illegal marijuana greenhouses and resulted in arrests of 15 people, the Sheriff's Department reported. The department's Marijuana Enforcement Team and patrol deputies seized nearly 8,000 marijuana plants, more than 4,500 pounds of processed marijuana, a firearm, and more than \$212,000 in cash between 27 December and 2 January in search warrants served at 18 locations.

SOURCE: 5 January 2022, Associated Press

# (U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

# (U) Mexico – 146 Migrants Detained at Tamaulipas Border

(U) Tamaulipas – On Tuesday, the Mexican Army and the National Institute of Migration apprehended 146 migrants and 15 vehicles in along the Texas border in northern Tamaulipas. The migrants were treated medically and provided with food and fluids for rehydration.

SOURCE: 4 January 2022, HOYT

## (U) Texas – USBP Agents Conduct Cold Weather Rescue of 25 Migrants From Tractor Trailer

(U) Sierra Blanca — Big Bend Border Patrol Sector agents rescued 25 migrants from a failed smuggling event yesterday, US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced. On the morning of 5 January, agents found the migrants abandoned in a locked trailer with no means to escape and no heat. Upon entering the vehicle agents noticed that the migrants were left in hazardous conditions and some required immediate medical attention due to the cold temperatures.

SOURCE: 5 January 2022, US CBP

#### (U) NATIONAL

#### (U) Florida – US Repatriates 119 Cuban Migrants as Growing Number Take to Sea

(U) Miami – The US Coast Guard (USCG) announced Tuesday they repatriated 119 Cuban migrants after apprehending them in the Straits of Florida. The migrants, swept up in 12 operations that took place over just three days in the South Florida Straits from the Bahamas to the Florida Keys, were found in boats adrift offshore. Cuban state media said Tuesday's repatriation was the largest in four years. Coast Guard figures show 586 Cuban migrants have attempted to illegally migrate to the United States in the first three months of fiscal year 2022 alone, a rate far exceeding 2021.

SOURCE: 5 January 2022, Reuters

#### (U) New Jersey – Man Pleads Guilty in \$50M Fraud Scheme Involving Fake Websites

(U) Newark – A California man plead guilty in a New Jersey court yesterday to running a \$50-million fraud scheme. Allen Giltman plead guilty to wire fraud conspiracy and securities conspiracy. Investigators say that over the span of eight years, Giltman and others used fake websites offering high

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returns on certificates of deposit to lure investors. Investigators identified at least 150 of the websites and more than 70 victims in New Jersey and elsewhere. Money wired by victims was routed to accounts in Russia, the Republic of Georgia, Turkey, and Hong Kong. His sentencing is scheduled for 10 May 2022. SOURCE: 5 January 2022, <u>US DOJ Mercury News</u>

# (U) New Mexico – Bernalillo County Victim of Suspected Ransomware Attack

(U) Bernalillo – A suspected ransomware attack yesterday has impacted systems and services. County officials reported the attack occurred between midnight and 5:30 am. The county says systems impacted by the suspected ransomware attack have been taken offline and network connections have been severed while staff assess the impact. Officials report the incident is under a criminal investigation. SOURCE: 5 January 2022, KOAT

# (U) INTERNATIONAL

# (U) Iraq – Bases Housing US Troops in Iraq, Syria Come Under Attack

(U) Bagdad – Iraqi military bases hosting US troops in Iraq's western Anbar province and the capital of Baghdad were hit by Katyusha rockets yesterday, and in Syria, eight rounds of indirect fire landed inside a base with members of the US-led coalition. A lesser-known group in Iraq called Qassem al-Jabarayn, claimed responsibility for one of the attacks. The group vowed in an online post to keep up attacks until the full withdrawal of US forces. No casualties were reported in the three attacks, which were part of a series that began on Monday, the anniversary of a US airstrike that killed top Iranian general Qassim Soleimani in Baghdad two years ago.

SOURCE: 5 January 2022, Associated Press

### (U) Kazakhstan – Dozens of Protesters, 12 Police Dead in Kazakhstan Unrest

(U) Almaty – Dozens of protesters and 12 police died during violent demonstrations that set government buildings ablaze and left over 350 people injured. After demonstrators broke into the presidential residence and the mayor's office in the in Almaty yesterday, the government's cabinet resigned. While the president initially seemed to try to calm the protesters, he later promised harsh measures to end the unrest, which he blamed on "terrorist bands," and called on a Russia-led military alliance for help. The airports in Almaty and two other cities have been closed, and internet service was severely interrupted. The gatherings began Sunday in Zhanaozen, triggered by a spike in fuel prices and political opposition, then spread across the country in the following days and are ongoing. SOURCE: 5 January 2022, CNN Associated Press

#### (U) Saudi Arabia - France Opens Terrorism Probe Over Rally Team Blast in Saudi Capital

(U) Jeddah – French prosecutors said Tuesday they had opened a terrorism investigation into an explosion that went off under a French vehicle involved in the Dakar rally in Saudi Arabia. The blast hit a support vehicle belonging to the French team Sodicars soon after it left its hotel in the city of Jeddah for the race route, according to accounts from the team and race organizers. Five team members were in the vehicle at the time and one sustained serious leg injuries after the blast ripped through the floor of the vehicle, which then caught fire. A race official said that the two-week race will continue and asked Saudi authorities to assign more police to protect the rally.

SOURCE: 4 January 2022, Reuters

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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